

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Status of Claims

Claim 1 has been amended.

Claims 2 and 19 have been canceled.

Claims 18 and 20-31 have been withdrawn.

As such, claims 1 and 3-17, are currently pending in this application.

Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the presently claimed application.

Telephone Interview

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the brief telephone interview on September 15, 2006 wherein the pending claims and prior art of record were discussed. The Examiner suggested that Applicant provide support for the previous amendment to independent claim 1, which is discussed in more detail below.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Independent claim 1 and claims 3-17 depending there from stand rejected under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. In response, Applicant directs the Examiner's attention to Example 23, first sentence of paragraph [0023] of the specification, which provides express support for the amendments to independent claim 1. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the 112 rejections be withdrawn as to claims 1 and 3-17.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 3-17 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as anticipated by *Stahl*. Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to remove the term “about,” and thus claim 1 no

longer reads on column 132, lines 1-31 of *Stahl*. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 3-17 are not anticipated by *Stahl*.

CONCLUSION

Consideration of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the application, and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested by Applicant. No new matter is introduced by way of the amendments. It is believed that each ground of rejection raised in the Final Office Action dated July 19, 2006 has been fully addressed. If any fee is due as a result of the filing of this paper, please appropriately charge such fee to Deposit Account Number 50-1515 of Conley Rose, P.C., Texas. If a petition for extension of time is necessary in order for this paper to be deemed timely filed, please consider this a petition therefore.

If a telephone conference would facilitate the resolution of any issue or expedite the prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

CONLEY ROSE, P.C.

Date: _____

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